

Run 1508 9-4-73

Nebraska Weekly Weather & Crop Report



Statistical Reporting Service, USDA
and U S Department of Commerce
Environmental Science Services Admn.
National Weather Service

Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l Statistics
Agricultural Extension Service
of Nebr. College of Agriculture

Release 9/4/73

Week Ending 9/3/73

WEATHER

Temperatures continued above normal all week under fair and sunny skies. Scattered showers and thundershowers occurred over the entire State September 2 giving some rain to all areas. The heaviest rain showers occurred in Holdrege, Grand Island, York, Hastings and Superior.

CROPS

Hot dry weather and some fuel shortages for irrigation pumps caused crops to decline during the week ending Friday. Rain and cooler weather over the Labor Day weekend alleviated the moisture shortage but much irreversible damage had already been incurred, particularly by soybeans and dryland corn.

Corn condition declined to mostly good during the week ending Friday. County Agents rated 21% of counties as excellent, 57% good, 18% fair and 4% poor. About 95% of the crop is in the dough or more advanced stage, 65% in the dent or more advanced stage and 10% is mature. These percentages are about the same as a year earlier and average. Rains over the weekend will benefit corn but the crop has suffered much damage from hot dry weather and especially the dryland crop. Some producers particularly in north central counties were forced to reduce or halt irrigation because of fuel shortages.

Sorghum condition declined and is now rated as mostly good with 28% of counties excellent, 64% good and 8% fair. About 55% of heads have turned which is the same as a year earlier but above the average of 50%. Weekend rains should be particularly beneficial to sorghum.

Soybean condition declined during the week ending Friday with 19% of counties rated as excellent, 71% good

and 10% fair. Leaves are turning on 25% of the crop compared with 35% a year ago and 30% normal.

The third cutting of alfalfa is 85% completed and about 35% of the fourth crop has been harvested. Condition of the growing crop declined with 14% of counties reported excellent, 61% good and 25% poor. Wild hay condition also declined with 13% excellent, 44% good, 39% fair and 4% poor.

Sugar beets continue making very good progress. Early fields of dry beans are being cut. Some white mold is reported.

Soil moisture supplies declined during the week ending Friday although rains over the Labor Day weekend greatly improved supplies. Topsoil supplies were mostly short on Friday with 14% of counties reported adequate and 86% short. Subsoil supplies were mostly short with 36% adequate and 64% short.

Some of the driest areas have been in the northern counties of the State. Cedar, Knox and Pierce counties had not received appreciable rain since July 20. These counties received rain over the weekend but not as heavy as many other areas.

Main farm activities have been irrigating, haying, preparing seedbeds for wheat, working summer fallow, putting up silage and attending fairs. Seven days were suitable for fieldwork.

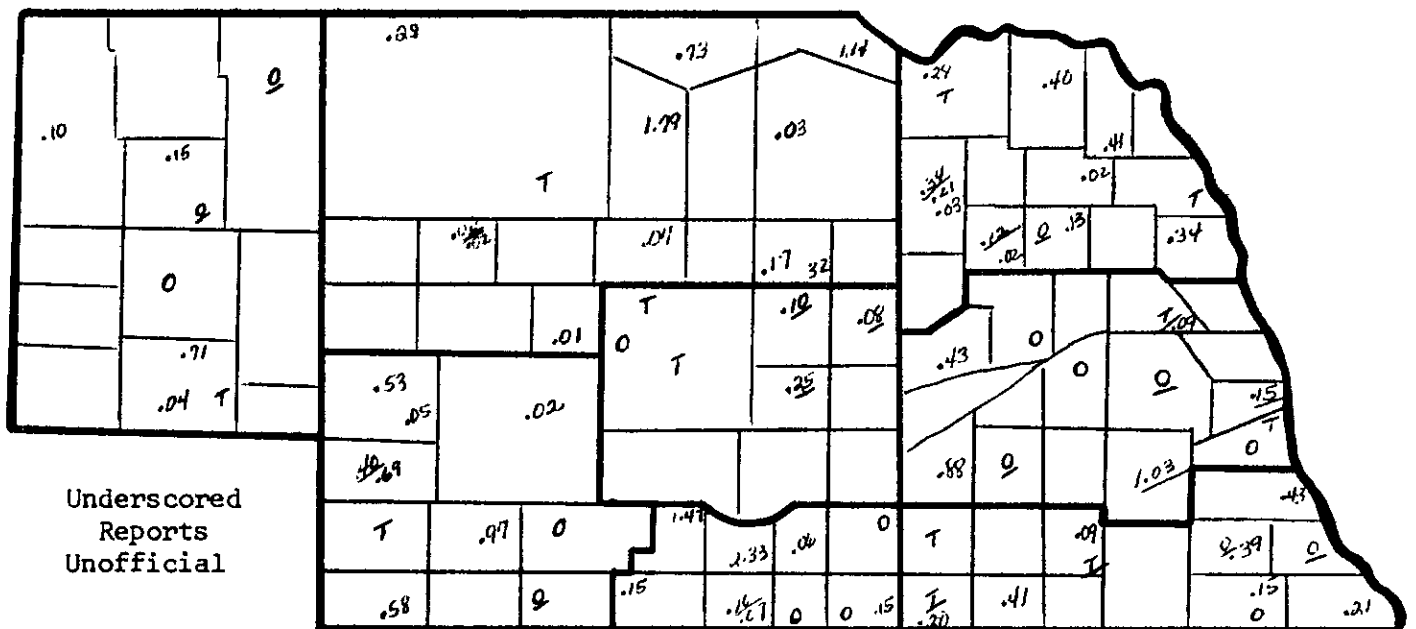
RANGE & LIVESTOCK

Range and pasture condition declined and is mostly below average with 10% of counties reported above average, 38% average and 52% below average. Hot weather has also been hard on livestock.

Precipitation, April 1 - September 2, 1973

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week.....	.20	.40	.20	.00	.20	.50	.50	.20
Total since April 1.....	8.30	12.90	13.60	14.90	17.20	12.40	13.50	18.20
Normal since April 1.....	11.33	13.72	16.09	14.83	17.28	12.90	14.93	18.56

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 A.M. SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1973



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 P.M. SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 2, 1973

Station		Temperature				Precipitation
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Inches
		Max	Min			Total 1/
NW	Chadron	98	51	74	--	.73
	Scottsbluff	98	50	70	+2	.40
	Sidney	95	48	69	--	.01
NC	Burwell	92	60	76	--	.15
	Valentine	100	56	71	+2	1.89
NE	Norfolk	95	64	79	+6	1.19
	Sioux City	96	68	80	+8	.48
CEN	Grand Island	95	64	79	+7	2.56
EC	Lincoln	94	65	81	+9	.03
	Omaha	97	67	79	+7	.26
SW	Imperial	95	57	75	--	T
	North Platte	92	58	75	+3	.10

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.

U.S. Department of Agriculture
211 Federal Building, Box 81069
Lincoln, Nebraska 68501
Official Business

